

1608/440.

A
P L A N
FOR A
PUBLIC LIBRARY,
AT
Church-Langton,
IN
LEICESTERSHIRE.
BY
The Rev. Mr. HANBURY.

Καὶ ὁ Θεὸς ἐλεήσει.

L O N D O N :

Printed for W. SANDBY, opposite St. Dunstan's-
Church, in Fleet-Street. 1760

FOR A

Chirch-Ling

10

The Rev. Mr. HADRON.



W O G M O J

Printed for W. SANDS, at the
 "Star" in New York.



P L A N
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PUBLIC LIBRARY.

THE Advantages, that arise
from PUBLIC LIBRARIES,
are so many, and of such Im-
portance, that it were greatly to
be wished, that there was at least
one founded in each County ;
which under proper Regulations
would not only defray the Charges
incident to itself, but add confi-
derably

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derably to any Public Charity, that deserved such Encouragement. A Library of Books may be said to be only the first Charge, the additional Expences being so inconsiderable in Proportion to what its Income will naturally be ; as there are always Gentlemen enough in every County, who, for the Perusal of Books, will be glad to encourage it with a small annual Subscription.

Such a Collection of good Books, as may deserve the Name of a Public Library, is no where more necessary than in *Leicestershire* ; seated as it were in the Heart of the Kingdom, at a Distance



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Distance from the Seats of Learning, and the Metropolis; in which Places only, the curious Enquirer into the Points of Learning, History and Antiquity, can be likely to meet with a Solution of his Doubts, or satisfy his Thirst of Knowledge.

A Morning's Ride to such a Place might perhaps be equally beneficial to the Health, equally agreeable to the Mind, and infinitely more improving to the Understanding, than a Morning's Hunt. A Gentleman might retire Home from Study with as good an Appetite for his Dinner, and his Mind fraught with such salutary

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tary Maxims, as might preserve the Health he had got. He might carry his Entertainment along with him, an Entertainment, not for a Day only, but for Months and Years, which might give him solid Satisfaction, and make him a better Man, and better Member of Society; might confirm him in Goodness, and increase his Religion by establishing the Grounds of it, and fixing a rational Foundation for his Hope, his Faith, and his Charity.

Here the Curate, who had real Talents, might improve his Genius and Taste, at such a trifling Expence, as would not affect even
his

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his slender Income. He need then no longer complain of being forced to quit the University, just when he was admitted to study in the Public Libraries: He would no longer labour under such cruel Disadvantages, but meet with all those Books here, which are essential to the well conducting himself in his Duty, but which are unfortunately too dear for him to be possessed of at Home.

Here the curious Student of Nature, whether as a Botanist, or an Improver of Land, might enrich his Mind, and improve his Fortune, by Discoveries already made to his Hands, confirmed by

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Experience, and published for his Benefit. Were such Storehouses of Knowledge dispersed throughout the Kingdom, we should make a proportional Advancement in all the Arts and Sciences; but, for want of them, useful Discoveries daily die; and we need not wonder that many Arts of Antiquity have perished, as there never was any Care of this Sort taken to preserve them.

In order therefore to Found so useful an Institution, I propose giving Books to the Value of **ONE HUNDRED POUNDS** for the immediate Library, leaving it to be increased by such Methods, as shall
hereafter

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hereafter be set forth. And as the present Caprice of Booksellers, and Expences of Printing, are so intolerable, as to deter many good Writers, and stifle many noble Productions not only in their Birth but Maturity, I hereby invite the Learned World to remit me any curious Manuscripts, which shall be catalogued, and all due Honour done them; and I shall esteem it also as a Favour done to myself. Any other Books also shall be accepted with Gratitude, and the Benefactors recorded with Honour.

My Intentions are, that this Library shall consist of Books of

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Divinity, History, Antiquity, critical Dictionaries, useful Accounts of the Arts and Sciences, and such Books of Entertainment also, as are fit for a Clergyman's Inspection, and have no evident Tendency, to corrupt the Heart : ---Good Romances, both ancient and modern, will be admitted ; and all sprightly Books of Genius, that have not discredited the Man by setting up the Author.

Every Gentleman, who desires to be a Member of this Library, is to signify his Name and Place of Abode to me ; and when admitted by Order of the Trustees, is to pay *Five Shillings* Entrance, and

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and *Five Shillings* a Year. The Payments to be made in *Easter* Week ; and they who enter sooner or later pay proportionally : But if a Member neglects paying at that Time, he forfeits *Three-pence* a Week for six Weeks, and then is disqualified for being a Member, unless he pays fresh Entrance-Money.

The RULES then for the Establishing and Managing a PUBLIC LIBRARY at *Church-Langton* are as follow.

I. That the Members be admitted by Consent of the Trustees, and pay *Five Shillings*

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lings Entrance, and Five Shillings per Ann. and are then free of the Library for that Year.

II. That there be an Honorary Librarian, and a Sub-Librarian: The latter to attend daily from Eight in the Morning to Six in the Evening, and to have *Ten Pounds per Ann.* paid out of the Profits of the Library.

III. That the rest of the Profits be annually laid out in Books, unless they amount to above *Fifty Pounds*, in which Case, that Overplus, and the several

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ral Entrance Moneys of the Members to be laid by to build a Room; for which, tho' in a Course of Years they are insufficient, if the *Langton* Society can spare the Money, the Room is to be built at the Expence of the Society.

IV. That the Visitor only be excused paying the *Five Shillings per Ann.* as that might seem to infringe on his Visitation Power; but that, as to taking Books out of the Library, he submit to the common Rules.

V. That

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V. That Catalogues be given, or * fold to the Members; the Books number'd; and any Member wanting a Number, to send five more than that Number, lest some other should have that Book, and his Messenger return empty.

VI. New Books, under the Size of a Folio, to be kept but six Days; new Folios a Fortnight: All others according to their Sizes, *viz.* Folios a Month in general, Quartos three Weeks, Octavos a Fortnight,

* Catalogues may be sold at *Sixpence* each, when there are Books enough to answer Printing them.

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night, or as the Librarian shall appoint; and every Member detaining a Book beyond the Time appointed, to pay *Three-pence* a Week for such Detention.

VII. That Dilapidations be paid for such Damage as Books must naturally receive by being taken out of the Library, viz. for a Folio *Six-pence*, a Quarto *Three-pence*, all others *Three-Half-pence*: And that no Member take a Book out of the Library, without depositing the full Value in the Hands of the Librarian.

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VIII. They

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VIII. They, who study in the Library, are free of all Expence, except their *Five Shillings* a Year, have Pen and Ink, and a Fire in Winter, but pay for what Paper they use.

IX. That no Person shall have the same Book twice in a Year out of the Library, if another Member wants it.

X. That the Member, who damages a Book, so as to be unfit for the Beauty of the Library, shall make good the Book, or whole Set it belongs to ;

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to; and have the Book so damaged for himself.

XI. That the Binding of the Books be, as near as possible, similar (without frivolous Expence); and that the Arms of the Society, as soon as they are fixed, be impressed on the Covers.

XII. That the Librarians undergo annual Visitations from the Trustees, deliver in their Accompts, and make the Returns of the damaged or lent-out Books.



ADDRESSES

TO THE

TRUSTEES.

GENTLEMEN,

IF these Rules and this Plan is carried into Practice, I make no Doubt, that our Library will not only meet with such Encouragement as will soon raise it to a valuable Collection, but will in Time add to the Charity: The two Designs naturally and mutually support and assist each other.

The

The Pursuer of Botanical Knowledge will be delighted with having Recourse to Books, when he has an Opportunity of comparing the real Plants with them; and the Student will the rather attend a Library, where he can have such a Garden to walk in, and refresh himself after his Literary Labours. Besides that *Langton* is, as it were, the Center and Standard to which we all naturally resort for the Encouragement of the Charities here founded, the having it near the Garden will be absolutely necessary for the Reasons before laid down. We must therefore hire a Room to serve for this Purpose, 'till our Stock rises sufficiently to enable

enable us to build a proper Library. Besides, even supposing, that the neighbouring Gentlemen were not desirous of being Members, (tho' sure 'twere an Absurdity to think all of so indolent a Turn of Mind) yet as there is no Grand Society, but what has a Library, why should this, which, I doubt not, will in Time be the Grandest in *England*, be destitute of so necessary an Ornament, Honour and Advantage? Let a Library therefore be set on Foot with my *Hundred Pounds*, and founded, tho' it should amazingly happen, that no one Person, except the Rector of *Langton*, the Trustees, and the Librarians entered

tered the Door of it. Even in this Case, the worst that could possibly turn out, the Society could be no Loser; and there might arise some noble-spirited Man, who might make such Additions to the Trifle I bestow, as would call the curious *Literati* from other Parts, and unseen Advantages by that Means pour in upon all our Designs.

F I N I S.

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